

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) HIV gp120 mutants characterized in that they contain in their  $\alpha 2$  structure or in both  $\alpha 2$  and  $\alpha 1$  structures, a mutation of one or more aromatic amino acids, and in that this mutation gives rise to a loss in the infective properties of the mutants relative to wild gp120.
2. (Currently Amended) Mutants according to claim 1, characterized in that the ~~muted~~mutated amino acid or acids are positioned in the gp120 region corresponding to the interaction cavity with CD4, such as identified by crystallography.
3. (Original) Mutants according to claim 2, in which W at position 112 is replaced by a non-aromatic amino acid.
4. (Original) Mutants according to claim 3, characterized that the non-aromatic amino acid is chosen from among a serine or an isoleucine.
5. (Previously Presented) Mutants according to any of claim 2, characterized in that they contain an additional mutation according to which F at position 383 is replaced by an alanine.
6. Mutants according to claim 5, characterized by a mutation of tryptophan at position 427 to glycine, and/or of tryptophan at position 479 to sertine.

7. (Original) Mutants according to claim 1, characterized that they contain at least one mutation which is located in the gp120 region corresponding to the  $\alpha 2$  helical structures, downstream from the V3 loop of gp120.

8. (Original) Mutants according to claim 7, characterized in that W at position 338 is replaced by a non-aromatic amino acid.

9. (Original) Mutants according to claim 8, characterized in that the non-aromatic amino acid is chosen from among a serine or an isoleucine.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of vaccinating an individual comprising administering a mutant of ~~Application of the mutants according to claim 1~~ to an individual, as vaccine targets.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Application according to claim 10,~~ characterized in that ~~as antigenic vaccine target, a~~ wherein said mutant comprises a ~~is used in which~~ W at position 338 is replaced by a non-aromatic amino acid.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Application according to claim 10~~ 11, characterized in that wherein the non-aromatic amino acid is chosen from among a serine or an isoleucine.

13. (Original) Method for suppressing the infectivity of an HIV gp120, characterized in that the  $\alpha 2$  structure, or both the  $\alpha 2$  and  $\alpha a 1$  structures, are muted on one of the more aromatic amino acids.

14. (Original) Method according to claim 13, characterized in that mutation in the  $\alpha 1$  structure is conducted in the gp120 region corresponding to the interaction cavity with CD4, such as identified by crystallography.